

# UTILITY NEWS

Providing economical, safe and reliable electric, natural gas, sewer, and water services to the Fremont community

CITY OF  
**FREMONT**  
NEBRASKA PATHFINDERS

APRIL 2016

## Budget Payment Plan

Monthly utility bills vary widely throughout the year due to seasonal heating and cooling. Would you like to pay the same amount each month regardless of your actual use? With the Budget Payment Plan, you can.

Each year in April, we average your last 12 utility bills, and in May your newly averaged payments start. You'll pay that amount until the following April when your account is settled-up and your new average is calculated for the next year. Any credit you have accumulated is applied to your account. (You will see a minus sign after the dollar amount if it is a credit, i.e. \$25.37- would be a credit of \$25.37.) If you owe a balance, it will be billed on your April bill.



You will remain on the Budget Payment Plan unless you ask us to remove your account from Budget.

You may enroll in the Budget Billing Plan during April if 1) you have received 12 monthly bills at your current address, and 2) your account is paid in full by the April bill's due date.

The budget payments must be made each month. If it is not paid, your account will be removed from the plan. It is possible that your payment amount might be adjusted during the year if necessary.

Forms are available at our website at [www.fremontne.gov](http://www.fremontne.gov).

## Water Main Flushing Begins

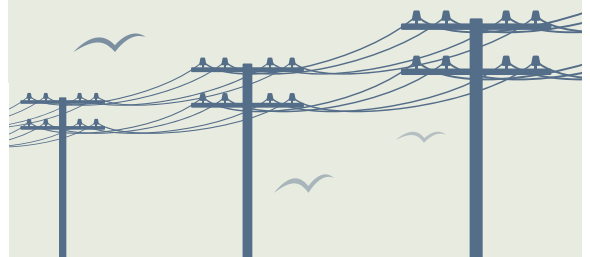
Water Department personnel will be flushing water mains from Sunday, April 24, through Friday, April 29. Flushing will be restricted to the hours of 10:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. to minimize inconvenience to customers. We will start in Inglewood and at First and Luther Road and progress north through the city ending up in Washington Heights and Sunset Additions. The following is the *approximate* flushing schedule:

Sunday, April 24	Inglewood north to 1 Street
Monday, April 25	1 to 9 Streets
Tuesday, April 26	9 to 16 Streets
Wednesday, April 27	16 to 23 Streets
Thursday, April 28	23 Street to the northern service area including Washington Heights and Sunset Additions

Please adjust your water use accordingly. **You may want to consider shutting off your water softeners or underground sprinkler systems while your area is flushed.** Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

## UTILITY WORKERS IN BACKYARDS

Utility workers will be performing routine maintenance in backyards starting in April. Some of the work will be near transformer pedestals, poles, and other electrical equipment in the right-of-way. This maintenance work ensures you receive safe, reliable service. You can identify Utility employees working in the field by their uniforms with the Utility logo. Workers also carry photo ID cards. Vehicles are marked with Utility emblems and truck numbers.



## Call 811 Before You Dig!

This is a reminder that no type of underground work should be started until the location of all underground utilities have been identified. This includes minor excavations, such as planting trees and shrubs and installing fences and mailboxes. If you nick, scrape, gouge, or break a location wire on the gas pipe line, please call the Utility to report it. We will inspect and/or repair the damage before the line is backfilled. The Utility also will inspect the condition of a natural gas line any time it has been exposed. This will ensure a safe construction season for everyone.

Your underground utilities will be marked with paint or flags:

Electric

Gas

Water

Sewer

**Call 800-331-5666 or 811 before you dig.**

All locate requests will be processed through the Nebraska811 hotline within 48 hours.

## Automatic Bill Payment Options

We offer two payment options for customers who want to pay their bills automatically each month.

Pay your bill on-line. Go to [www.fremontne.gov](http://www.fremontne.gov). Click on the e-GOV category. You can make a one-time payment or schedule a monthly payment using your VISA or MasterCard charge cards.

Another option is to request that your bank make a payment each month. This service saves you time and postage and eliminates the possibility of missing a payment while on vacation or out of town. A regular itemized monthly bill is mailed, and your payment is processed on the due date. Forms are available at our website at [www.fremontne.gov](http://www.fremontne.gov).

## Wastewater Discharge

So what happens to the Fremont, Valley, and Arlington wastewater (what many refer to as sewage) after it's processed through the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)? The answer is it's discharged into the Elkhorn River.

This is a photo of water samples taken at the WWTP's discharge site. One sample is wastewater from the WWTP and the other is Elkhorn River water. Can you guess which sample is which? (The answer is below.)



Discharge into the Elkhorn River is regulated by the State of Nebraska under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The State develops and issues NPDES permits to ensure our facility is in compliance with the permit.

*Answer: The water sample on the left was taken after it has been processed at the WWTP.*

## APRIL SAFETY TIP

If you see a downed power line, always assume it is dangerous. Don't touch it. Don't drive over it. If you are in a vehicle, stay inside and warn others to stay away. Immediately call the Utility at 402.727.2600. Utility workers will tell you when it is safe to exit the vehicle. In case of a vehicle fire, do not touch the car when you jump or step out. Keep your arms and hands close to your body. Walk with your feet together, shuffling until you are at least 35 feet away. Be safe!

**City of Fremont**  
Department of Utilities

400 E. Military Avenue, Fremont, NE 68025  
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone: 402.727.2600  
Website: <http://www.fremontne.gov>

